

1. (Thrice Amended) A light pipe for providing backlighting of a flat-panel display by means of at least one light source comprising:

a first surface, said surface including patterns having diffractive properties for coupling light out from the light pipe, said patterns comprising uniform, mutually different areas distributed on said first surface;

wherein the light pipe further comprise first pixel-like formations having a first orientation and second pixel-like formations having a second orientation being different than that of the first pixel-like formations orientation, residing close to the light input end of the light pipe, said pixel-like formations being arranged to diffract the light for producing uniform lighting.

23. (Amended) A light pipe for providing backlighting of a flat-panel display by means of at least one light source, comprising:

a first surface said surface including two dimensional patterns having diffractive properties for coupling light out from the light pipe, said patterns comprising uniform, mutually different areas distributed on said first surface.

25. (Amended) A light pipe for providing backlighting of a flat-panel display by means of at least one light source, comprising:

a first surface, said surface including pixel patterns having diffractive properties for coupling light out from

the light pipe, said patterns comprising uniform, mutually different areas distributed on said first surface.

27. (Amended) A light pipe for providing backlighting of a flat-panel display by means of at least one light source, comprising:

a first surface, said surface including patterns having diffractive properties for coupling light out from the light pipe, said patterns comprising uniform, mutually different areas distributed on said first surface including close to said light source.

Please add the following claim:

29. (New) The light pipe of claim 1, wherein said light out from the light pipe is substantially uniform with distance from the light input end.

REMARKS

A marked-up version of the rewritten claims is attached hereto.

Claims 1, 23, 25 and 27 have been amended as requested. It is therefore submitted that they now conform to 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph. The rejection of claim 17 is not understood. It is submitted that it conforms to 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph.

The utilization of diffraction gratings is very different in the references than in the present invention. The references do not describe backlight arrangements at all as the claimed invention. The claimed light pipe (for producing backlight) that has the diffractive properties as described in the claims is claimed for producing backlight, and therefore such light pipe must not